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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/525,247	03/15/00	URIU	E YAMAP0347USB
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MMC2/0228
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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, T

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2832

DATE MAILED: 02/28/01

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Office Action Summary

Application No.
09/525,247

Applicant(s)
Uriu et al.

Examiner
Tuyen T. Nguyen

Group Art Unit
2832



☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Jan 17, 2001

☐ This action is **FINAL**.

☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

A shortened statutory period for response to this action is set to expire 3 month(s), or thirty days, whichever is longer, from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to respond within the period for response will cause the application to become abandoned. (35 U.S.C. § 133). Extensions of time may be obtained under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

Disposition of Claims

☒ Claim(s) 8-15 and 21-28 is/are pending in the application.

Of the above, claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

☒ Claim(s) 8-15 and 21-28 is/are rejected.

☒ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

☐ Claims _____ are subject to restriction or election requirement.

Application Papers

☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948.

☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on _____ is ☐ approved ☐ disapproved.

☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

☒ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

☒ All ☐ Some* ☐ None of the CERTIFIED copies of the priority documents have been

☒ received.

☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) _____.

☐ received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

*Certified copies not received: _____

☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).

Attachment(s)

☒ Notice of References Cited, PTO-892

☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s). 4

☐ Interview Summary, PTO-413

☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review, PTO-948

☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application, PTO-152

--- SEE OFFICE ACTION ON THE FOLLOWING PAGES ---

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DETAILED ACTION

Priority

1. Receipt is acknowledged of papers submitted under 35 U.S.C. 119(a)-(d), which papers have been placed of record in the file.

Drawings

2. Figure 14 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 8-15 and 21-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Tashiro et al. [US 5,515,022] in view of Hirohashi [JP 6-112047].

Tashiro et al. discloses a multi-layered chip inductor [1] comprising:

- at least one conductive patterns [31, 32] having a thickness of 10 micro-meter or more and a width to thickness ratios from 1 to less than 5 [see column 6, lines 15-25];
- at least one pair of insulating layers [22, 23] formed of magnetic material sandwiching the conductor patterns; and

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- a thick conductor [35] connecting the conductive patterns [31, 32].

Tashiro et al. discloses the instant claimed invention except for inductor component being formed of a ceramic material.

Hirohashi discloses a ceramic chip inductor.

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to form the inductor component of Tashiro et al. with a ceramic material, as suggested by Hirohashi, for the purpose of controlling the frequency response.

Tashiro et al. discloses that various printing methods can be used to applied the conductive patterns.

The particular printing method selected would have been an obvious design consideration based on the specific materials and thickness to width ratios applied/used.

The specific shapes of the conductive patterns would have been an obvious design consideration depended upon the specific application of the inductive components.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

- Hasegawa et al. [US 4,959,631] and Saito [US 5,548,265].

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Examiner Tuyen T. Nguyen whose telephone number is (703) 308-0821.

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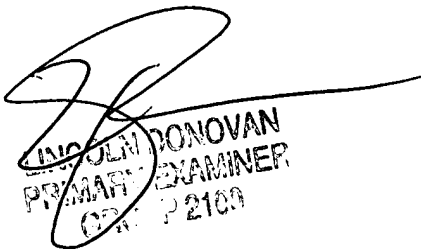
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Mr. Michael Gellner, can be reached at (703)308-1721. The fax number for this Group is (703)305-7724.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application of proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-0956.

TTN

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February 25, 2001


LINCOLN DONOVAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER
OR: P2100